

Serial No.: 09/080,461
Atty. Docket No.: P61993US0

REMARKS

This is in response to the Final Office Action of December 19, 2002 (Paper No. 24). With the entry of this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 25 and 26 will be amended and new claims 27-30 will be added. Upon entry of the Amendment, the costs for adding the four independent claims should be charged to the undersigned attorney's Deposit Account No. 06-1358.

Filed separately herewith is a Petition for Extension of Time along with a check in the amount of \$410.00. If the amount is in error, the Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to debit or credit, as appropriate, the undersigned attorney's Deposit Account No. 06-1358.

Preliminarily, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicants' attorney during an interview conducted in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 28, 2003. During the interview, claims similar to claims 1, 2, 25 and 26, as amended, were discussed. In addition, the Applicants' attorney and Examiner made proposed additional changes which the Examiner indicated defined over the prior art. See the Interview Summary Record, Paper No. 25. Those claims that the Examiner indicated to be allowable over the prior art of record are submitted herewith as new independent claims 27-30. Thus, these claims are now in condition for allowance.

With respect to the independent claims 1, 2, 25 and 26, each of them have been amended to recite that the information storage medium stores all of the user-environment information about an environment suitable for a user. These amendments are motivated in part by the Examiner's comment in the Final Office Action at page 6, lines 19-21 where the Examiner is critical of the pre-

Serial No.: 09/080,461
Atty. Docket No.: P61993US0

amendment claim language as not requiring that the portable medium contain "all the individual user-environment information." The claim now requires that the information storage medium does store all of the user-environment information. Thus, the pending claims require that all of the information necessary to, for example, change the operating system or language, originate from the portable medium that the user would, for example, insert into the user recognizing unit. This is, in contrast to, for example, original claim 6 which has long since been canceled and which recited that the information storage medium included only user ID information whereby the user-environment information came from a separate data server.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5, 21 and 23-26 as unpatentable over the Wilkinson et al. Patent No. 6,308,317 in combination with a publication entitled "Windows NT 4 Workstation". Similarly, the Examiner rejected dependent claims 4, 20 and 22 further in view of the Bertram Patent No. 5,948,064. It is respectfully submitted that the basic patent for all rejections is the Wilkinson patent. As will be discussed, the Wilkinson patent does not disclose the significant claim limitations and the inclusion of the secondary references add nothing to overcome the deficiencies of Wilkinson.

The characteristic features specified in each amended claim 1, 2, 25 and 26 are as follows:

(1) The information storage medium to be applied to the user-recognizing unit stores all of the user-environment information about environment suitable for a user; and

(2) The user recognizing unit changes the operating environment of the computer so as to fit with (match) the user-environment information.

Serial No.: 09/080,461
Atty. Docket No.: P61993US0

The advantages obtained by the above features are as follows:

As the information storage medium stores all of the user-environment information about an environment suitable for a user and the user-recognizing unit changes the operating environment of the computer so as to fit with the user-environment information, the user (operator) can change the operating environment of the computer so that he or she can use the computer. This is a very remarkable effect of the present invention.

Wilkinson fails to disclose the advantageous features forth in each independent claim 1, 2, 25 and 26. Claims 1, 2, 25 and 26 specifically define that the information storage medium stores all user-environment information about an environment suitable for a user. This is never disclosed or suggested in Wilkinson.

In addition, claims 1, 2, 25 and 26 specifically define how the read-out (unloaded) information (data) is used. That is, the claims specifically state that the operating environment of the computer is changed so as to fit with the user-environment information. However, Wilkinson never discloses any element corresponding to the user-environment information. The Examiner states in the Office Action, page 2, lines 6-8: "Wilkinson teaches the storing of JAVA data on a smart card medium (col. 9, lines 19-25). This data assists in the establishing of a user work environment. Such information is user-environment information." It is respectfully submitted that this is incorrect. There is nothing in Wilkinson, col. 9, lines 19-25, corresponding to the user-environment information that defines an environment suitable for a user. It is clear that the feature that the operating environment

Serial No.: 09/080,461
Atty. Docket No.: P61993US0

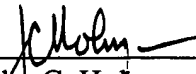
of the computer is changed so as to fit with the user-environment information cannot be derived from Wilkinson.

Thus, Wilkinson fails to disclose the basic claim concepts and the secondary references, even if combined with Wilkinson to not supply the deficiencies of Wilkinson. There is simply no teaching to combine the Windows NT publication, for example with Wilkinson to obtain the present invention. Similarly, the Bertram reference does not supply the deficiencies of the basic reference.

Thus, this application should now be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

1. (Three Times Amended) A user-adaptive variable-environment system comprising:
a computer provided with an operating environment and a recognizing unit; and
an information storage medium to be applied to the user recognizing unit, the information storage medium being portable;
wherein the information storage medium stores all of user-environment information about environment suitable for a user,
the user recognizing unit reads the user-environment information stored in the information storage medium and changes the operating environment of the computer so as to fit with the user-environment information, and
the information storage medium is automatically and directly readable by the user recognizing unit while being inserted into the user recognizing unit.
2. (Three Times Amended) A user-adaptive variable-environment system comprising:
a computer provided with an operating environment and a recognizing unit; and
an information storage medium to be applied to the user recognizing unit, the information storage medium being portable;
wherein the information storage medium stores all of user-environment information about environment suitable for a user,

the user recognizing unit reads the user-environment information stored in the information storage medium and changes the operating environment of the computer so as to fit with the user-environment information, and

the information storage medium is automatically readable by the user recognizing unit while being in a position near to but apart from the user recognizing unit.

25. (Amended) A user-adaptive variable-environment system comprising:

a computer provided with an operating environment and a user recognizing unit; and

an information storage medium to be applied to the user recognizing unit, the information storage medium being portable and is an ID card serving as a password;

wherein the information storage medium stores all of user-environment information about environment suitable for a user, said user-environment information includes at least one of a type of an OS, a language in which information is to be displayed, usable application software and a key layout, and includes a dedicated operating system, dedicated application software, a dedicated keyboard layout and a dedicated display language;

the user recognizing unit reads the user-environment information stored in the information storage medium and changes the operating environment of the computer so as to fit with the user-environment information; and

the information storage medium is automatically and directly readable by the user recognizing unit while being inserted into the user recognizing unit.

Serial No.: 09/080,461
Atty. Docket No.: P61993US0

26. (Amended) A user-adaptive variable-environment system comprising:

a computer provided with an operating environment and a user recognizing unit;

an information storage medium to be applied to the user recognizing unit, the information storage medium being portable and is an ID card serving as a password;

the information storage medium stores all of user-environment information about environment suitable for a user, said user-environment information includes at least one of a type of an OS, a language in which information is to be displayed, usable application software and a key layout, and includes a dedicated operating system, dedicated application software, a dedicated keyboard layout and a dedicated display language;

the user recognizing unit reads the user-environment information stored in the information storage medium and changes the operating environment of the computer so as to fit with the user-environment information; and

the information storage medium is automatically readable by the user recognizing unit while being in a position near to but apart from the user recognizing unit.